(d) how many cases of violation of the ban were noticed and what action was taken on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Except the conservation areas like National Parks and Sanctuaries, mining activity is not banned anywhere in the country. It is, however, being regulated in the areas covered under the provisions of the Notifications on Murud-Janjira, Doon Valley, Dahanu, Coastal Regulation Zone and Aravallies along with other development activities.

(b) Environment assessment of new mining projects is a pre-requisite for initigating the likely adverse impacts. A report on the environmental status of coal mines has also been carried out.

(c) and (d) Does not arise as no ban exists.

Study on animals with the help of World Bank Funds

2268. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study is proposed to be carried out on elephants, leopards and rhinoceros with the help of world bank funds including that in Kanha and other sanctuaries in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the objects and aspects of the study; and

(c) what is the world bank aid sanctioned therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) There is no proposal with this Ministry to carry out a study on elephants, leopards and rhinoceros with the help of World Bank. There is, however, a provision in the West Bengal Forestry Development Protect assisted by the World Bank for preparing action plans based on studies on elephants, leopards and rhinoceros.

(b) and (c) The wildlife and biodiversity component of the World Bank-assisted West Bengal Forestry Development Project aims at improvement of of wildlife and protected areas management. A new wildlife research unit to be based in North Bengal is also proposed. The proposed outlay for the wildlife biodiversity component under this programme is about US $ 1.0 million.

Uganda's calling back of all Expelled Indians

2269. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Uganda has invited all the expelled Indians back to re-establish trade and industry in that country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take similar action in case of NRIs from Hongkong; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NRIs have not been expelled from Hong Kong.

(c) Does not arise.

Chinese claim over Arunachal Pradesh

2270. SHRI NYODAK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the claim of entire area of Arunachal Pradesh as Chinese territory; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction on this claim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) The Government are aware that the Chinese Government have claimed approximately